

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 411

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION congratulating Pat Summitt, Head Coach of the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers 2007 National Championship team.

WHEREAS, in a spirited display of athleticism and teamwork, the University of Tennessee Lady Vols once again reign supreme, as they captured the coveted 2007 NCAA Women's Basketball Championship by soundly defeating Rutgers University, 59-46; and

WHEREAS, led by Coach Pat Summitt, the preeminent basketball coach in all of women's college basketball, the Lady Vols further etched their place in college basketball lore with the victory over the Scarlet Knights before a capacity crowd of mostly orange-clad faithful in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, challenged by Coach Summitt in her pre-game talk to win for the throngs of faithful Lady Vol followers, the team responded in typical fashion by dominating Rutgers from the game's outset, firmly establishing Tennessee as the most successful basketball program in the history of women's intercollegiate athletics; and

WHEREAS, without the diligent work ethic and extraordinary talent of each team member and coach, this astounding victory would not have been possible; Coach Summitt has dedicated thirty-three years of her notable career to shaping the Lady Vols, the nation's most successful program; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure with UT, Coach Summitt has accumulated an astounding 913 wins, including six NCAA titles and twenty-five Southeastern Conference tournament and regular season championships; she also counts among her former and present players twelve Olympians, nineteen Kodak All-Americans named to thirty-one teams, sixty-five All-SEC performers, forty-five international participants, and thirty-eight professional players representing the ABL, WNBA, or overseas teams; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of the late Richard and Hazel Head and a graduate of UT Martin, Coach Summitt has not only devoted her time coaching to the Lady Vols; she also has impressive international coaching experience, including coaching the first U.S. Junior National Team, being named the 1984 U.S. Women's Olympic basketball coach, and coaching the 1983 World Championship team to a silver medal finish; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly and Lady Vol fans everywhere take great delight in honoring each member of this extraordinary group of young women and their coaches who have contributed mightily to the successful legacy of University of Tennessee Women's Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Pat Summitt's determination, work ethic, and talent have not only made possible a memorable and successful basketball career, but also ensure a lasting legacy with Lady Vols basketball and the sport of basketball as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Coach Summitt epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Pat Summitt, Head Coach for the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers 2007 National Championship team, for her hard work during the 2007 season and wish her every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.